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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORT

TOPIC Military information and Soviet documents from Doeberitz

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EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 13 February to 8 March 1950

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 24 April 1950

REFERENCES

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

1. a. Panzer Kaserne at the NW corner of Altes Lager:

(1) Occupied on 13 and 17 February 1950 by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with and without tank insignia. No recruits were seen. Ten to fifteen T34 tanks were stored in each of four brick garages. An unidentified number of T34 and J3 tanks and SP guns of about 120 mm caliber with muzzle brake were stored in seven wooden garages, allegedly 10 to 15 tanks or SP guns per garage.

(2) The large storage building was vacant and its door open.

(3) About 40 troops were engaged in cleaning five T34 tanks in the yard. Two SP guns, apparently SU-122 type, were parked in front of a wooden garage. A tank-wrecking heavy-duty trailer, coupled to a T34 chassis serving as prime mover, was seen in the yard.

(4) About 200 troops of a unit were quartered in four cantonment buildings. Other troops of the unit were quartered in the adjoining Altes Lager.

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b. former Flak Kaserne and adjoining requisitioned houses:

(1) Partly occupied by about 1,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with and without tank insignia. A wrecking vehicle (tank chassis) was seen in the barracks yard and, beside

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the workshop, the carriage of an AT gun. Eight soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen at aiming practice with a 100-mm AT gun in the area between the barracks and olympisches Dorf. The gun barrel mounted a rifle with an aiming mirror attached. One soldier at a time trained the gun at a target, then all soldiers looked through the aiming mirror.

(2) Two T34 tanks left the barracks at about 10:15 a.m. on 17 February 1950. They were followed 10 minutes later by nine other tanks of the same type, two SU-122 SP guns and trucks. Each truck carried 38 soldiers and two mortars of about 100 mm caliber. All vehicles drove in column along Priorterstrasse toward Pyrotz and stopped SW of the Doeberitz airfield. After about half an hour the 11 tanks moved to a patch of woods about 1 km farther to the east.

A mortar section of four men dug an emplacement and moved their mortar into it. The two SP guns and the two trucks moved to a depression about 500 meters to the east. The trucks and one SP gun remained there, while the other SP gun continued east, followed by 15 to 20 soldiers in close double file. After moving about 300 meters the SP gun stopped and the soldiers took cover. Four men of the SP gun crew got out and covered the gun with canvas. Two officers holding maps then discussed the situation. The exercise ended at about 2:30 p.m.

(3) The two SP guns and the trucks returned by the previous route while the tanks, at a speed of about 30 mph, moved toward Heerstrasse via the training grounds.

2. a. six trucks, coming from the direction of Seeburg, were seen to turn at the camp headquarters toward the troop training grounds at about 7 p.m. on 7 February 1950. All trucks were occupied to capacity by troops; four of them towed guns of 50 to 75 mm caliber, their numbers could not be secured because of darkness. After about an hour reports of light and heavy weapons were heard from the direction of the troop training grounds.

b. Three T34 tanks left the northern gate of Camp Ballgow about 1 p.m. on 14 February 1950. After about 10 minutes four trucks, each occupied by about 20 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets and towing a mortar of about 75 mm caliber, emerged from the same gate. Beginning thirty minutes later and continuing until shortly before nightfall, firing practices were held at the troop training grounds.

c. Soviet dependents boarded a train which left toward Wustemark at about 4 p.m. on 17 February 1950. Their baggage had been carried to the train on trucks.

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4. a. Troops wearing gas masks which covered their entire heads held aiming and laying exercises with three 37-mm M1 guns at the athletic field south of Heerstrasse on 8 March 1950.

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- b. The envelopes described in Paragraph 5, [redacted] were found at Olympisches Dorf.

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5. Description of documents:

No 1: Envelope addressed to a soldier [redacted] 25X1A

No 2: Fragment of an envelope addressed to a soldier [redacted] postmarked 2 February 1950 25X1A

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No 3: Fragment of an envelope examined by Censorship Office [redacted]

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No 4: Fragment of an envelope examined by Censorship Office [redacted]

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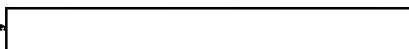
[redacted] comment:

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- a. The report indicates that, since February 1950, the troops in the poeberitz area have also apparently shifted the main training effort to field training at unit level (exercises by rifle platoons or companies in cooperation with heavy weapons).

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As the SP guns observed were reported to have muzzle brakes they are believed to have been SU-249 type rather than SU-122 type. SU-249 SP guns are standard equipment of the heavy tank self-propelled regiment of mechanized divisions.

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